

REMARKS

Claims 21-29 and 31-46 are pending in this application. Claims 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 33 and 34 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 23-26, 31, 32 and 41 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 21-29 and 31-46 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ninomiya, U.S. Patent No. 5,764,968. Claim 30 has been allowed. In recognition of the allowability of claim 30, claims 23-25 and 31 have been amended to depend from claim 30. Further, claims 26, 32 and 41 have been amended to include limitations from claim 30 that should render each of these claims allowable. Therefore, the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection should be withdrawn and claims 21-29 and 31-46 should be allowed along with claim 30.

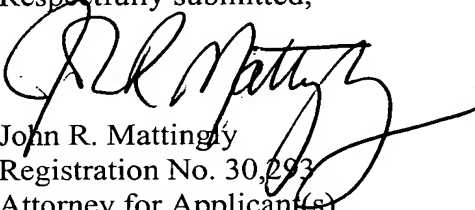
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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Mattingly", is written over the typed name and registration number.

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